

106TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1064

To authorize a coordinated program to promote the development of democracy
in Serbia and Montenegro.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 10, 1999

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey (for himself, Mr. GILMAN, Mr. HOYER, Mr. PORTER, Mr. ENGEL, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mr. ROHRABACHER, and Mr. MORAN of Virginia) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on International Relations

A BILL

To authorize a coordinated program to promote the
development of democracy in Serbia and Montenegro.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION. 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Serbia and Montenegro
5 Democracy Act of 1999”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 The Congress makes the following findings:

8 (1) In multi-party elections held in the Republic
9 of Serbia in 1990, 1992, 1996 and 1997, inter-

1 national observers found considerable evidence of
2 election fraud and the manipulation of state-run
3 media, allowing the ruling Socialist Party of Serbia
4 led by Slobodan Milosevic to maintain power.

5 (2) On many occasions, and specifically in
6 1991, 1996 and 1997, the Serbian authorities dem-
7 onstrated a clear willingness to intimidate and use
8 force against citizens of Serbia who were peacefully
9 exercising their rights by protesting publicly against
10 the undemocratic practices of the regime.

11 (3) Beginning in 1991, the Serbian Government
12 formed by the Socialist Party of Serbia sought to
13 enhance its power and counter democratic pressures
14 by fomenting extreme nationalism and instigating
15 conflict within the former Socialist Federal Republic
16 of Yugoslavia, which, by the time peace was restored
17 in 1995, resulted in the deaths of hundreds of thou-
18 sands, the torture and rape of tens of thousands and
19 the forced displacement of nearly 3,000,000 people.

20 (4) In 1992, the republics of Serbia and Mon-
21 tenegro asserted the establishment of a new “Fed-
22 eral Republic of Yugoslavia”, the government and
23 institutions of which have been dominated by those
24 holding power in Serbia and their political allies in
25 Montenegro, enabling Serbian President Slobodan

1 Milosevic to become the President of the new Yugo-
2 slav state in 1997, when his final term as President
3 of Serbia ended.

4 (5) In 1997 and 1998, forces within the ruling
5 Democratic Socialist Party of Montenegro which
6 supported the building of democratic institutions
7 separated from those allied with the ruling party in
8 Serbia, cooperated with opposition parties, including
9 those representing minority communities, and suc-
10 ceeded, despite threats and intimidation on the part
11 of Serbian officials, in holding elections reflective of
12 the will of the citizens of Montenegro and bringing
13 increased openness and tolerance in Montenegrin so-
14 ciety.

15 (6) In 1998, conflict in the area resumed with
16 an assault by Yugoslav military and Serbian police
17 and security forces on innocent civilians in Kosovo
18 which have resulted in more than 1,000 people dead
19 or missing and the forced displacement of tens of
20 thousands before a tentative ceasefire was reached
21 which has been threatened by further atrocities in
22 1999.

23 (7) The ethnically Albanian majority of the
24 population of Kosovo has established its own politi-
25 cal, medical, education and media institutions in re-

1 action to the illegal revocation in 1990 of Kosovo's
2 autonomy as a province in the former Socialist Fed-
3 eral Republic of Yugoslavia and the subsequent
4 years of repression of the people living in Kosovo.

5 (8) In 1998, new, draconian laws on informa-
6 tion and higher education placed further restrictions
7 on the independent media and academic freedom in
8 Serbia.

9 (9) The chronology of events in Serbia and
10 Montenegro since 1990 indicate a clear and close re-
11 lationship between the instigation of conflict and the
12 denial of democratic development.

13 **SEC. 3. POLICY TOWARD SERBIA AND MONTENEGRO.**

14 It is the policy of the United States to promote the
15 development of democracy in Serbia and Montenegro and
16 to support those who are committed to the building of
17 democratic institutions, defending human rights, promot-
18 ing rule of law, and fostering tolerance in society.

19 **SEC. 4. ASSISTANCE TO SUPPORT DEMOCRATIC EFFORTS**
20 **IN SERBIA AND MONTENEGRO.**

21 (a) ASSISTANCE.—In carrying out the Support for
22 East European Democracy (SEED) Act of 1989, the
23 President shall provide the following assistance to support
24 democratic efforts in Serbia and Montenegro (excluding
25 Kosovo):

1 (1) OPEN MEDIA.—

2 (A) IN GENERAL.—Assistance to improve
3 infrastructure and programming, to provide ad-
4 vice, technical support and education, and to
5 help provide legal protection.

6 (B) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIA-
7 TIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated
8 \$10,000,000 for fiscal year 2000 to carry out
9 subparagraph (A).

10 (2) NONGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS.—

11 (A) IN GENERAL.—Assistance to train, to
12 develop regional networks, to encourage multi-
13 ethnic focus on issues of common concern, and
14 to help provide legal protection.

15 (B) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIA-
16 TIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated
17 \$5,000,000 for fiscal year 2000 to carry out
18 subparagraph (A).

19 (3) INDEPENDENT LABOR UNIONS.—

20 (A) IN GENERAL.—Assistance to promote
21 membership, to facilitate contacts and coopera-
22 tion with labor unions elsewhere in Europe, and
23 to help provide legal protection.

24 (B) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIA-
25 TIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated

1 \$3,000,000 for fiscal year 2000 to carry out
2 subparagraph (A).

3 (4) EDUCATION.—

4 (A) IN GENERAL.—Assistance to assist
5 independent education networks, to help provide
6 support for those fired for political reasons, and
7 to develop improved teaching materials on de-
8 mocracy and civic responsibilities.

9 (B) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIA-
10 TIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated
11 \$5,000,000 for fiscal year 2000 to carry out
12 subparagraph (A).

13 (5) JUDICIARY.—

14 (A) IN GENERAL.—Assistance to train
15 judges on international judicial standards, to
16 support a trial monitoring program, and to help
17 provide support of those fired for political rea-
18 sons.

19 (B) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIA-
20 TIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated
21 \$2,000,000 for fiscal year 2000 to carry out
22 subparagraph (A).

23 (6) POLITICAL PARTIES AND COALITIONS.—

24 (A) IN GENERAL.—Assistance to expand
25 training in grassroots organization, to develop

1 coalition-building and campaign skills, and to
2 develop party leadership below the state or re-
3 public level.

4 (B) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIA-
5 TIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated
6 \$7,000,000 for fiscal year 2000 to carry out
7 subparagraph (A).

8 (7) LOCAL GOVERNANCE.—

9 (A) IN GENERAL.—Assistance to provide
10 support to democratically-oriented local govern-
11 ments to provide services, to establish local eco-
12 nomic development plans, and to increase the
13 transparency and accountability of decision-
14 making.

15 (B) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIA-
16 TIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated
17 \$3,000,000 for fiscal year 2000 to carry out
18 subparagraph (A).

19 (8) ELECTION ADMINISTRATION.—

20 (A) IN GENERAL.—Assistance to train
21 election officials in transparent election proce-
22 dures, to provide tamper-resistant electoral sup-
23 plies, and to develop sound registration and vot-
24 ing procedures.

1 (B) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIA-
2 TIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated
3 \$3,000,000 for fiscal year 2000 to carry out
4 subparagraph (A).

5 (9) YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS.—

6 (A) IN GENERAL.—Assistance to promote
7 student organizations and to develop and pro-
8 vide for study programs in Europe and the
9 United States.

10 (B) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIA-
11 TIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated
12 \$3,000,000 for fiscal year 2000 to carry out
13 subparagraph (A).

14 (b) ADMINISTRATION OF ASSISTANCE.—Assistance
15 described in subsection (a) shall be provided to institu-
16 tions, nongovernmental organizations, and persons that
17 are eligible organizations designated in accordance with
18 section 5, by the President, acting through appropriate
19 Federal agencies and the National Endowment for Democ-
20 racy, based on a determination by the President of the
21 potential effectiveness of the agency or entity in providing
22 the assistance.

1 **SEC. 5. ELIGIBILITY AND DESIGNATION OF ORGANIZA-**
2 **TIONS AND INSTITUTIONS.**

3 (a) **ELIGIBILITY.**—An institution, nongovernmental
4 organization, or person shall be eligible for designation
5 under subsection (b) if such institution, nongovernmental
6 organization, or person—

7 (1) clearly advocates democratic principles in its
8 programs (if a nongovernmental entity) or in the im-
9 plementation of its policies (if governmental entity);

10 (2) has membership which does not discrimi-
11 nate on the basis of ethnicity and is open to dialogue
12 across state and republic lines; and

13 (3) has no known direct involvement in, nor
14 open support for, atrocities associated with the con-
15 flict in the former Socialist Federal Republic of
16 Yugoslavia or any of the independent states which
17 have emerged therefrom, since 1991.

18 (b) **DESIGNATION.**—The President shall designate 1
19 or more institutions, nongovernmental organizations, or
20 persons that meet the requirements of subsection (a) as
21 eligible to receive assistance under this Act.

22 **SEC. 6. DEVELOPMENT OF POLITICAL CONTACTS RELAT-**
23 **ING TO SERBIA AND MONTENEGRO.**

24 (a) **SENSE OF THE CONGRESS.**—It is the sense of the
25 Congress that political contacts between United States of-
26 ficials and those who, in an official or unofficial capacity,

1 represent a genuine desire for democratic governance in
2 Serbia and Montenegro and designated in accordance with
3 section 5, should be developed through regular and well
4 publicized meetings.

5 (b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is
6 authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of State
7 \$350,000 for fiscal year 2000 for a voluntary contribution
8 to the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Eu-
9 rope (OSCE) and the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly—

10 (1) to facilitate contacts by those who, in an of-
11 ficial or unofficial capacity, represent a genuine de-
12 sire for democratic governance in Serbia and Mon-
13 tenegro and designated in accordance with section 5,
14 with their counterparts in other countries; and

15 (2) to encourage the development of a multilat-
16 eral effort to promote democracy in Serbia and Mon-
17 tenegro.

